

## **GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

For Immediate Release Friday, February 27, 2009 Contact: Teri Pope (770) 718-3924 office (404) 274-6436 cell

## GEORGIA DOT ANNOUNCES TRAFFIC SHIFT ON SR 17/TOCCOA BYPASS NEXT WEEK IN STEPHENS COUNTY

TOCCOA, Ga. – The Georgia Department of Transportation announces a traffic shift on the State Route 17/Toccoa Bypass widening project underway in Stephens County.

"Weather permitting, Tuesday, March 3, crews will shift traffic onto the newly built lanes of State Route 17," explained Georgia DOT District Engineer Russell McMurry. "Traffic will be shifted beginning at SR 184 to just south of SR 106. Vehicles will utilize the new lanes while the old lanes are being reconstructed."

The overall widening project on SR 17 from SR 184 to SR 17 alternate is currently ahead of schedule. The completion date is December 31, 2009 at a construction cost of \$22.6 million.

"Please slow down and pay extra attention as you become accustomed to the traffic shift. This is still an active work zone," said McMurry.

Georgia DOT urges travelers to call 511 for updated information about this or any other construction project on interstates and state routes. Georgia 511 is a free phone service that provides real-time traffic and travel information statewide, such as traffic conditions, incidents, lane closures, and delays due to inclement weather. Callers also can transfer to operators to request assistance or report incidents 24 hours a day, seven days a week. More information is available at <a href="https://www.511ga.org">www.511ga.org</a>.

The Georgia Department of Transportation is committed to providing a safe, seamless and sustainable transportation system that supports Georgia's economy and is sensitive to both its citizens and its environment. For general information on the Georgia DOT, please visit our Web site (www.dot.ga.gov).